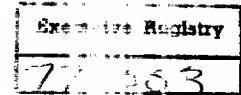




THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

23 February 1977



The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Intelligence Community, I thank you for your press conference concerning intelligence and the need for secrecy. Your strong support of our mission, and of the need for discretion in the public consideration of our affairs, will do much to reinforce the spirit of professionalism, dedication and drive in all intelligence personnel.

We will work to ensure that the future performance of intelligence men and women will be worthy of the confidence you have shown in them. All of us are particularly heartened by your statement that dispels the cloud of "impropriety" from above our heads.

Most respectfully,

*E. H. Knoche*  
E. H. Knoche  
Acting Director

*White House*

STAT [redacted] will clip to President's PDB 24 Jan 77.

STAT ORIG - [redacted] for delivery

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